

February 2026
www.surrey-constabulary.com

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Surrey Constabulary History 134



Mount Browne, Traffic, new fleet of Zephyr Traffic Department cars about 1963

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1922 Surrey Constabulary PC's unusual uniform



No belt and whistle chain looping top pocket

Tony Collman

The picture is a mystery. The sergeants whistle appears to go from his second button down vertically to just above his belt buckle. The officers standing behind appear to be wearing their whistles in the same way. The only explanation is that the officer on the right and left were wearing a new style of uniform. I am not sure when Surrey Constabulary police officers stopped wearing a belt outside their tunic but photos from the archive show it was a very slow change. Probably change followed replacement uniforms when worn out!



Officers in different uniform sat front rank either end – Superintendent Lucas 1922

Exeter, Devon

Dear Ed.,

I am very interested in the Tilford Pub – the Barley Mow picture (Old Surrey Pubs – November 1975 issue).

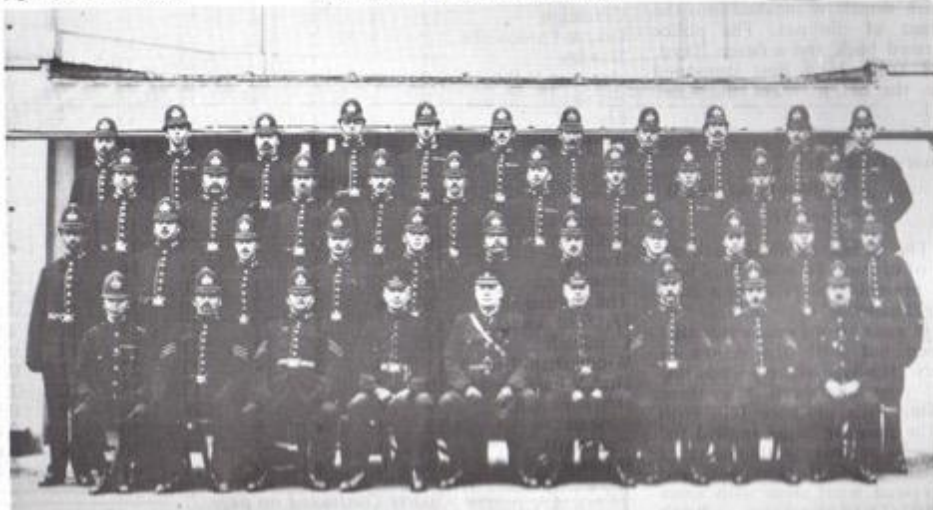
My father James House, P.C. 34, was stationed at Tilford from 1902 until 1906, and I think the policeman in the back of the picture must have been my father.

The enclosed photo (below) was taken in 1924 in Farnham

Division. My father is in the second row from the front, third from the left, standing between two Sergeants.

Yours sincerely,

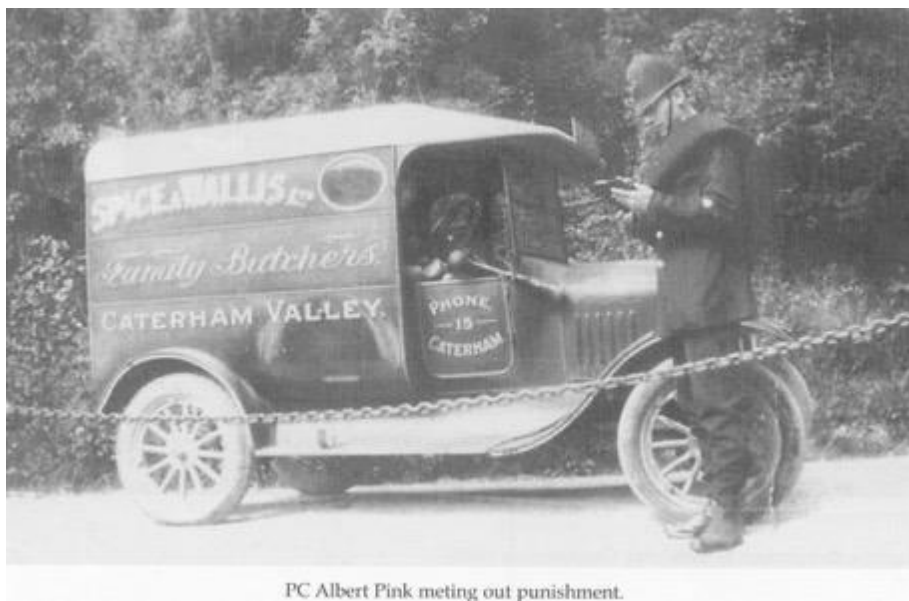
Miss M. G. House



This letter puts the date of the photo as 1924



This is a clearer photograph of a 1922 constable, PC131 Muggeridge, Surrey Constabulary



PC Albert Pink meting out punishment.

PC Pink 1925 - no belt in show- probably First Aid badge on sleeve



NUM 1926 strike Alfreton Derbyshire – Surrey Constabulary mainly with belts and whistles on display. Some of the officers from other forces than Surrey Constabulary.



Believed Farnham post First World War all belts and whistles



1928 No belt or whistle - PC Tom Roberts



1929 wedding at Westcott. Belt and whistle on display



Woking Division 1930 belts and whistles



1930 Belt and Whistle - PC Bert Henley and his brother – family fun!



Mr. John Lucas has written to us and is able to name everyone in the above photograph taken in 1930 at Guildford Division. He also tells us a bit about the Division at that time

"The uniformed Inspector held on the strength of Guildford was absent, in any case, I should say it could be Minter.

The Superintendent was appointed Supt. and Chief Clerk in 1924, when Inspector Reginald W. Port was promoted Supt. An assistant to the Superintendent and Chief Clerk was never officially appointed.

Inspector Back (newly promoted) was then a uniformed Inspector but when Major Geoffrey Nicholson, M.C. became

C.C. he was appointed Chief Clerk or as is known now a days Inspector i/c Administration.

The old fashioned uniform was to my knowledge made up in the 50's when the film the Blue Lamp was being shown at the Odeon Cinema, Guildford. The donor of the top hat (original) was of a family living in the Oxted area who had a relative who was an early Surrey P.C."

1930 – Guildford Division

Back row (left to right):
 114 Corbett, 299 Budd, 97 Cross, 186 Parrott H., 170 Staples, 220 Mothersele, 168 Edward Rose, 263 Wickens, 84 Kirlaw, 107 Webb R.

Second Row:

78 Hall E., 179 Tom Roberts, 61 Leonard Hawkins, 273 Turley, Inspt. H. N. Back, 256 King Alec, 9 Walter Edwards, 138 A. E. Curry, 245 Icke, 139 Smith, 4 Lew Roberts, 211 Berry, 12 Galloway.

Sitting:

173 John Baker (driver to C.C.), 59 Starkie, P.S. 12 Walter H. West, P.S. 15 Tanner, Supt. and D.C.C. and Supt. and Chief Clerk W. Kenward, Captain Mowbray Lees Sant (Chief Constable of Surrey), P.S. 29 Alfred Brown, A/P.S. (unpaid) John H. Lucas, P.C. 205 Charles Andrews, 159 William Philpott.

1930 still a mixture of belts and not!



PS Albert Edward Tanner 15 June 1930 - no belt



Surrey Constabulary 1930s PC Weeks – whistle top pocket



Farnham Division 1933 or 1934 all new style uniform



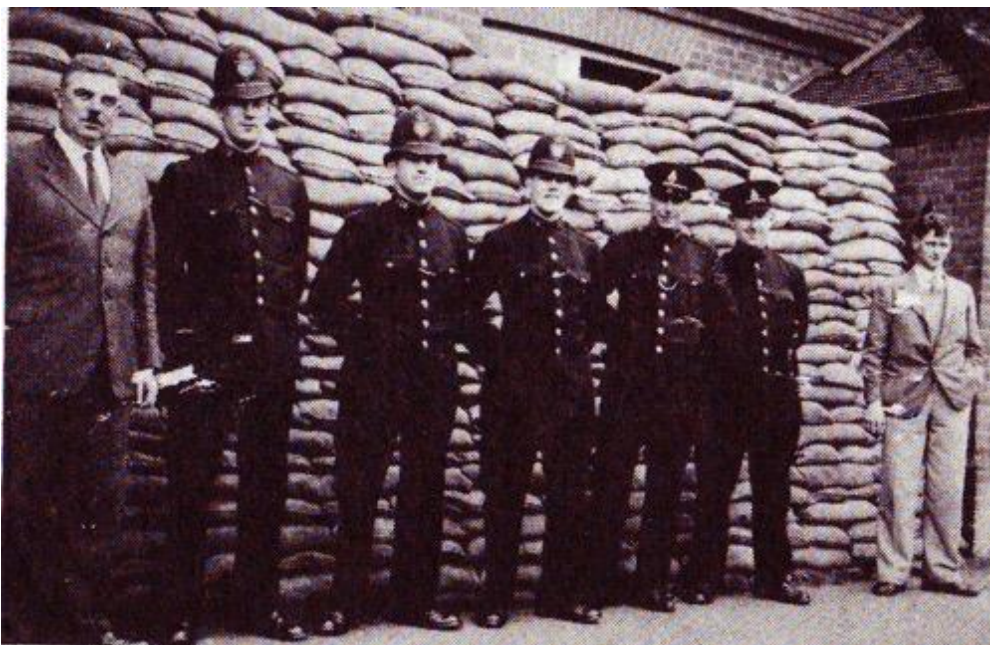
Ash Section. Police Sergeant Budd in new style uniform as have the Specials.



One special constable has a Military Cross



About 1937 Inspector David Saunders Reigate – excellent example of collar number



Camberley 1939 Left Inspector Denyer – new style uniform for the war!

Battenberg Omega

Retired Sergeant 1862 JP Davis. I stumbled across the site¹ by accident and what a magnificent collection you have and an applaud the huge effort to put this all together - a huge thank you. I really don't want to be pedantic but the picture of a "Battenberg senator" on your vehicles section is a Battenberg Omega! I happen to pick up that car from Stonebridge and take it to Chertsey Traffic - a swap for the last remaining Surrey Senator (K815XPJ). We were the last crew to swap to the Omega. Many thanks - I've got loads more to read on the site!



What were they up to in 1999 at Mount Browne?

Mike, Ken Wheeler, Steve Cole, Jooles Crabbe, Phil Waters, Jon Merry, Justin Noons, Colin Walke, Dick and Nina Reeve, Phill Moss and 'Decamp' Derek Seeking.

¹ www.surrey-constabulary.com

PC 410 Cyril V Hearn BEM
Surrey Constabulary
Military Police

BEM awarded for gallant and distinguished service in Italy
Royal Humane Society's Testimonial on parchment



Additional research Jennie Tuffs and Richard Callaghan RMP Museum

An article was published in issue 133 of this Journal setting out the career of Cyril Hearn. Since then, more detail has been recovered and so the piece with additional material appears in this edition.

Cyril Victor Hearn was from New Malden. He enlisted in the 23 London Regiment, later re-enlisting in the Coldstream Guards at London, age 19, occupation printer, born Battersea, London, 3 January 1940 compulsory transferred to CMP. He was the author of four books Desert Assignment, Foreign Assignment and Russian Assignment, all stories relating to his wartime service in the SIB and A Duty to the Public, policing in the 1970s.

Awarded British Empire Medal²

“Regimental number on citation reads 6769169. Italy. Citation for BEM. The above-named NCO has, over a long period, continually distinguished himself by his high sense of duty, perseverance, and hard work, showing a great degree of bravery under difficult and unusual circumstances. His cheerful character, together with the above remarks, have inspired other members of this section, and has led to the arrest of many dangerous criminals, both Service personnel and civilians. In my opinion, he merits and award of the BEM. One example of his work in the Special Investigation Branch is as follows: Many offences had been committed by a gang of armed deserter-thieves in this Area during the later months of 1944 and it became known that certain deserters, well known to this Section, were responsible. Extensive enquiries were made and certain plans adopted. On 28 Nov 44, two members of this gang were arrested. They were armed with Italian pistols. The known ringleader and other members of his gang were still at large. On 5 Dec 44., information was received that these men were in a public square in Bari. Sgt. Hearn and two other SIB men, accompanied by a CMP Patrol went to this square. The CMP Patrol could not be actively employed in the search for the deserters because of their conspicuous dress and were told to watch the movements of the SIB men. Sgt Hearn and the other two SIB men then went into the crowded square and commenced to look for the deserters. It was well known that they would be armed and they would resist arrest. As he neared four men (3 British deserters and an Italian criminal) they opened fire with automatic pistols and ran quickly away, firing at the Sgt and other SIB men as they did so, but without hitting them. Sgt Hearn chased two of the men towards the CMP patrol. On seeing the patrol one of the two men (the ringleader) opened fire on them. A CMP Cpl returned the fire and shot the deserter, who was then arrested. Sgt Hearn continued after the other man and eventually arrested him. The remaining two deserters escaped in the large crowd that gathered, but good work by Sgt Hearn led to their arrest the following day. Subsequent on this incident, Sgt Hearn brought about the arrest of no less than 24 Italians who were charged with being concerned with the deserters in larceny and receiving stolen property. Property to the value of over 4,000 (W D vehicles etc) was recovered against the ringleader alone. It is considered that the arrest of this gang had a great deterrent effect on other less dangerous deserters who might then have been in this Area and the good work of Sgt. Hearn enabled this Section to concentrate on other pressing work. Recommended by: DAPM 62 SIS. Maj APM HQ 54 Area. Brigadier Comd 54 Area. Maj Gen Comd 3 District. National Archive WO 373/73.”³

Cyril was born on 14th April 1912 in Wandsworth Registration District and baptised at Christ church, Battersea Park Road, Battersea on 8th May 1912, his parents were Victor Albert William and Emily Hearn of 51 Ingrave Street, Battersea, his father was a candle moulder. 1912 Census lists Cyril, aged 9 years with his parents, three of his siblings and a nephew at 80, Lavender Road, Battersea.

² (London Gazette 20th September 1945)

³ Decoration: British Empire Medal Gazette Date: 1945-09-20 Gazette Issue: 37274 Gazette Page: 4674

1928 28th November at the age of 16 years he joined the Territorial Army.

1931 October he joined the regular army (Coldstream Guards)

1933 Electoral Register for 80, Lavender Road, London, SW11 lists Cyril and his parents. November 1938, he joined Surrey Constabulary and was posted to Oxted.

1939 17th February Kent and Sussex Courier - Oxted- **Police Change-** PC Hearn leaves Oxted for Dorking on February 20th.

1939 Register lists Cyril V Hearn living with several other police constables at the **Constables' Quarters**, Police Station, Moore's Road, Dorking.

1939 details of residents Moores Road, Police Station, Dorking. Superintendent is Clifford P Hilton born 17 March 1888. Police Sergeant Frank Melton 23 December 1902 in 2 Police Cottages, Police Station Moores Road. PC Clifford Aggar 25 April 1918. PC Owen T Armstrong 7 June 1917. PC Richard Arthur 23 November 1913. PC Harold Dudley 7 September 1912. PC Cyril Hearn 14 April 1912 (Later BEM) military service. PC Robert Kim 31 October 1914 (Later DFM). PC Edward Williamson 13 April 1915.

1939 Sunday November 26th Cyril Victor Hearn, a police officer at Dorking **married** Alice Maud West at The Ascension Church Lavender Hill.

In December 1939 he left the police for the army rejoining again in January 1946 when he returned to Dorking.

SURREY CONSTABULARY APPOINTMENT REGISTER

Cyril Victor Hearn aged 26 born 14 April 1912 height 6 feet 1 inch. Born Battersea and married 26 November 1939 to Alice Maud West. Trade a printer last residence 96, Elsey Road, Clapham Junction. Previous public service Coldstream Guards 21.10.31 – 25.8.38 length of service 6 years and 309 days. PC410

Appointment 13 November 1938 sworn in Guildford 18 November 1938 Guildford - stationed Oxted. Surrey Constabulary postings.

<u>Date</u>	
1 Dec 1939	Passed Official Anti-Gas Course as trainee. Called to the Colours as Reservist.
20 Sep 1945	Awarded the British Empire Medal (Military Division) in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in Italy – G.O. 1079 (112) – 16.3.46.
27 Jan 1946	Return to Force from the Army. GAVE NOTICE OF WISH TO PAY PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS AT THE Higher RATE.
4.4.48	Sat Examination and failed educationally.
9.4.49	Sat Examination for Sergeant and failed in criminal law.
12.7.49	ACCEPTED AVERAGING FOR PENSION Police Pension Regs
1.4.50	1949. Sat Examination for Sergeant and failed in police duties.
6.2.58	Sat Examination for Sergeant and failed.
27.2.58	Sat Examination for Sergeant and failed in police duties.
23.6.58	Failed advanced driving course at Maidstone.
26.6.58	Awarded the Royal Humane Society's Testimonial on parchment for his part in attempting to save the life of a boy who fell into the sea at Bournemouth on 26.12.59.
19.5.60	Police Long Service & Good Conduct Medal.

<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
20 Feb 39	Oxted	Dorking
1 Dec 39	Dorking	ARMY
27 Jan 46	ARMY	Dorking
29 Apr 46	Dorking	Woldingham
4 Apr 49	Woldingham	Addlestone
4 June 51	Addlestone	Walton-On-Thames
24 Feb 57	Walton-On-Thames	HQ T (W.I. Chertsey)
17.8.58	HQ "T"	Chertsey (Beat)
6.10.58	Chertsey	Walton-On-Thames (Beat)
29.6.59	Walton-On-Thames (Van	
26.10.62	Driver) Egham - beat	

Pensioned 4 July 1964 with conduct judged as exemplary for 25 ½ years' service.
Average pay for the last three years of service £1003.17.4 pension 31/60 £518.13.3

Soldier Details

Surname: Hearn Initials: C.V. Rank: Sergeant Army No. 6769169

Notes: CMP. 62 Sect SIB. From New Malden. Regimental number in London Gazette reads 6769162, see this number for more details. Cyril Victor Hearn. He was the author of four books Desert Assignment, Foreign Assignment and Russian Assignment. All stories relating to his wartime service in the SIB. C V Hearn joined the Surrey Constabulary after the war and was to publish "A Duty to the Public" at the end of his police service.

Decorations/Medals/Awards British Empire Medal Gazette Date: 1945-09-20 Issue: 37274
Gazette Page: 4674

Citation: Regimental number on citation reads 6769169. Italy. Citation for BEM. The above named NCO has, over a long period, continually distinguished himself by his high sense of duty, perseverance, and hard work, showing a great degree of bravery under difficult and unusual circumstances. His cheerful character, together with the above remarks, have inspired other members of this section, and has led to the arrest of many dangerous criminals, both Service personnel and civilians. In my opinion, he merits and award of the BEM. One example of his work in the Special Investigation Branch is as follows: Many offences had been committed by a gang of armed deserter-thieves in this Area during the later months of 1944 and it became known that certain deserters, well known to this Section, were responsible. Extensive enquiries were made and certain plans adopted. On 28 Nov 44, two members of this gang were arrested. They were armed with Italian pistols. The known ringleader and other members of his gang were still at large. On 5 Dec 44., information was received that these men were in a public square in Bari. Sgt Hearn and two other SIB men, accompanied by a CMP Patrol went to this square. The CMP Patrol could not be actively employed in the search for the deserters because of their conspicuous dress and were told to watch the movements of the SIB men. Sgt Hearn and the other two SIB men then went into the crowded square and commenced to look for the deserters. It was well known that they would be armed and they would resist arrest. As he neared four men (3 British deserters and an Italian criminal) they opened fire with automatic pistols and ran quickly away, firing at the Sgt and other SIB men as they did so, but without hitting them. Sgt Hearn chased two of the men towards the CMP patrol. On seeing the patrol one of the two men (the ringleader) opened fire on them. A CMP Cpl returned the fire and shot the deserter, who was then arrested. Sgt Hearn continued after the other man and eventually arrested him. The remaining two deserters escaped in the large crowd that gathered, but good work by Sgt Hearn led to their arrest the following day. Subsequent on this incident, Sgt Hearn brought about the arrest of no less than 24 Italians who were charged with being concerned with the deserters in larceny and receiving stolen property. Property to the value of over £4,000 (W D vehicles etc) was recovered against the ringleader alone. It is considered that the arrest of this gang had a great deterrent effect on other less dangerous deserters who might then have been in this Area and the good work of Sgt. Hearn enabled this Section to concentrate on other pressing work. Recommended by: DAPM 62 SIS. Maj APM HQ 54 Area. Brigadier Comd 54 Area. Maj Gen Comd 3 District. National Archive WO 373/73.

From Richard Callaghan RMP Museum 17 April 2023. Cyril Victor Hearn. Served as Sergeant in Corps of Military Police SIB 67 Section No 6769162. Also, the author of "Foreign Assignment" detailing his time in Italy. He mentored the young George Churchill-Coleman (also serving in the RMP and later the civil police). He also wrote "A duty to the public – a frank assessment of today's Police Force." His medal entitlement is somewhat exaggerated – most appear to be Italian orders of chivalry which he would not be entitled to wear in British military uniform. BEM awarded on 20.9.1945 (LG Issue 37274 p 4674) Regimental number on citation reads 6769169. Italy.



Military History Sheet. 17 5 63

Service at Home and Abroad.

Country.	Service to count as British or Indian.	From	To	Length of Service	
				Years	Days
Home	British	21.10.31	26.8.38	6	309
Army Reserve		26.8.38	1.12.39	1	97
mobilised		2.12.39	16.5.43	3	166
in Africa		17.5.43	3.11.45	2	171
Home		4.11.45	29.1.46		84
Z. R.A. Reserve		30.1.46	9.2.54	8	11
A.G. Reserve		10.2.54	14.4.54	3	64
				25	176

NOTIFICATION OF IMPENDING RELEASE

PAGE THREE

U.K. Military Detention Camp Unit in U.K.

To be completed by unit officers who are despatching man to U.K. for release.

(Block Letters) **HEARN**
 Name **CYRIL VIKTOR**
 No. **6769162** Age and Service Group **20**
 Rank **W/SGT.** Unit, Regt. or Corps **67 Sec. SIB C.M.P.**
 Attached **AF 3 102 AFH (S) 2nd 3/49**

To be completed by unit officers or to U.K.

Trade on release **POLICE CONSTABLE.** (b) Trade courses and trade tests passed
 Trade **PROVOST AND INVESTIGATING DUTIES WHILE WITH H.M. FORCES.**
 or other qualifications for civilian employment

Character **EXEMPLARY**

Remarks:
A very good policeman who has always carried out his duties in a conscientious and efficient manner. Has shown great courage and initiative on the numerous occasions during which he has been investigating serious offences and this has recently been recognised in the award to him of the "B.E.H."



In the Field - C.M.F. Date **16 Oct. H.S.** Officer's Signature *S. M. ...* HEUT. A/DAPN 67 Sec. SIB. C.M.P.

Education Record (including particulars under (a), (b), (c) and (d) below). This Section will not be filed in until the receipt of further War Office Instructions.

- (a) Type of course
- (b) Length
- (c) Total hours of instruction
- (d) Record of achievement.

NIL

* Instructions will insert the letter "I" here to indicate that in their case the record refers to courses in which they have acted as instructors.

Signature of Unit Education Officer

To: Officer in charge of Record Office, (C.M.P.) **BOORNE MOUTH.**

Permanent Address (If not known, insert temporary address):
C/O CHIEF CONSTABLE, SURREY COUNTY CONST.

GUILDFORD SURREY
 DIE - MB 4P
 3 - NOV 2015
 2015
 77 MILITARY DISQUALITY CAMP UNIT 8 - NOV 1945
 READING

(Block Letters) **HEARN**
 Name **CYRIL VIKTOR**
 No. **6769162** Age and Service Group **20**
 Rank **W/SAT.** Unit, Regt. or Corps **67 SIB C.M.P.**
 Attached **AF 3 102 AFH (S) 2nd 3/49**

CYCLIST SWERVED WHEN COACH DOOR OPENED

FATAL COLLISION WITH VAN

Evidence that a cyclist, swerving suddenly when the door of a stationary motor coach was opened, collided with a van coming in the opposite direction and received fatal injuries, was given at an inquest at Chertsey on Tuesday.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death" on Kenneth Gordon Wade, aged 21, painter and decorator, of 56, Chapel Park Road, Addlestone. The accident occurred in Addlestone High Street on Friday evening, and it was stated that the cyclist died four hours later in St. Peter's Hospital from the effects of a fractured skull.

Two boys described how the coach door opened "quite suddenly" as the cyclist was passing the vehicle. He swerved, and the driver of the oncoming van could have done nothing to avoid him. The van driver, Mr. F. J. Mansell, of Ashford, said he was taken completely by surprise.

P.C. Hearn said there would have been room for the cyclist to get between the two vehicles.

"LOOKED IN MIRROR"

P.S. Jobson said the coach driver told him he first saw the cyclist when he opened the door. Witness told him if he looked in his mirror he ought to have seen the cyclist alongside the coach, and he replied that the cyclist must have been to the rear of the coach.

In evidence, the coach driver, Thos. Richard Pickett, of 141, Hershams Road, Walton, said he had been stationary for not more than a minute when the accident occurred. He looked in the mirror and did not see anything. He first realised there was anyone there when he saw the young man toppling off his bicycle. The door, when fully opened, would overhang the bus by 1ft. 11in.

1950 22nd July Surrey Advertiser

1951 Electoral register for 18 Firfield Road, Addlestone lists Cyril V and Alice M Hearn.

1952 25th January Surrey Herald - **Police Children's party** - Weybridge Divisional Police entertained 150 children at the Airscrew Hall. Their ages ranging from 2 months to 15 years. There were all the usual party attractions, including games, films, Punch and Judy and a sumptuous tea. Father Christmas found an excellent deputy in Insp Blackmore and there seemed to be almost 100% attendance of mothers and policemen fathers there to enjoy the fun. The organizing committee included PC Hearn (secretary).

1954 23rd January Surrey Advertiser - **Police Entertain Children** - Members of the Weybridge Division of Surrey Constabulary entertained their children to an enjoyable party at Airscrew Hall, Weybridge. About 140 children attended with their mothers. The arrangements were made by a committee comprising PC'S Long, Warren, Brennan and Hearn, the last being the hon secretary. After games and a film show tea was served. Following tea, a talent show was held and there was no lack of competitors with PC Hearn managing the various items. This proved quite a feature of the party and was appreciated by the adults as well as the children.

Father Christmas, impersonated by ex Insp Blackmore arrived later and distributed presents to the children.

Bullet went through neighbour's window BOY WAS CLEANING HIS FATHER'S RIFLE

WHEN a 14-year-old Hersham boy was cleaning his father's rifle it accidentally fired and the bullet went through a neighbour's window.

As a result of this incident the boy appeared at Chertsey Juvenile Court on Friday last week for possessing a firearm without a certificate and possessing ammunition. The Bench felt the act was not deliberate and gave the boy an absolute discharge.

P.C. Hearn said that as a result of a complaint he went to see the complainant at his home and was shown a broken pane of glass in the bay window. Inside he saw two curtains which had been damaged. In the wall of the lounge he found a fractured bullet.

He later saw the boy and he at first denied knowledge of the matter, but later admitted responsibility, saying it was an accident.

In a statement the boy said he commenced to clean his father's rifle and when he had finished he took it to the bedroom. He found a round of ammunition and put it in the breech to see if it was working and clean. He put the rifle on the window sill and pointed it up the road. This must have closed the breech and caused the rifle to discharge before he knew it.

P.C. Hearn confirmed that the rifle was very old and there was a tendency for accidents to occur. The boy had permission from the local Territorial unit to use their range.

The boy's father confirmed the statement made by the boy and said his son had a fair experience of firearms and for his age was a remarkably good shot.

1956 5th January Surrey Advertiser

1956 April 14th Surrey Advertiser - Walton- **Police Charities Dance**- Walton subdivision of Surrey Constabulary held a successful dance in aid of police charities at The Playhouse, Walton. The event was arranged by a committee under the leadership of Insp A Sizer and PC Hearn was M.C. About 170 attended and music was supplied by the Blue Kitten Band.

1960 4th June Surrey Advertiser - **Gallant Rescuers are rewarded** - A Surrey woman and a Surrey Constable were awarded Royal Humane Society Certificates for bravery in rescuing a drowning boy. The award to Mrs. Mary Wakefield (43 yrs) of 4 The Crescent Woldingham and PC Cyril Victor Hearn (47) of Walton followed a Boxing Day tragedy when 9-year-old Kenneth King was swept by a wave from a Bournemouth pier. Five people including his father who was drowned jumped into the sea to try to rescue him. Mrs. Wakefield and PC Hearn were among those who brought the boy ashore only to find that he was dead.

1960 23rd September South Western Star London - **P.C. Author** - Fame in the field of authorship may come the way of PC C. V. Hearn, the Battersea – born and bred policeman who has written a book entitled “Foreign Assignment” soon to be published. Mr. Hearn who is stationed at Walton Police Station is the son of an old Battersea music hall comedian, Victor Hearn. Before the war the 48-year-old police constable lived at Lavender Road Battersea. He was educated at St Peter’s school and joined the Guards in 1930’s and was on reserve when war was declared.

His previous experience in the army plus the fact that he had been a police officer soon earned him a position in the Special Investigation Branch and it is about these experiences that he writes in “Foreign Assignment”. The book which took seven years to plan and write is the first to be written about the Special Investigation Branch and lifts the lid off murder, sabotage, drug peddling and espionage.

Mr. Hearn has many personal adventures to tell of his wartime service with the S.I.B., he was decorated 15 times, an achievement unequalled. It is claimed by any other serving soldier, and he also received one foreign decoration which is normally only awarded to those of officer rank.

Authorship is only one of PC Hearn’s spare time activities, he is also a boat builder and has almost completed a to berth 16ft cabin cruiser. Rose growing is another hobby of this versatile officer although in recent years books and boats have taken priority.

Impatiently waiting for “Foreign Assignment” to be published Mr. Hearn already plans another book and next year plans to spend a holiday in Russia in order to obtain first hand material for his book which is to deal with crime in the U.S.S.R.

NEW BOOKS

'CLOAK AND DAGGER' —BUT ALL TRUE

There was published on Wednesday, by Robert Hale, Ltd., a book, "Foreign Assignment," the author of which is a serving member of the Surrey Constabulary, Police Constable C. V. Hearn, at present stationed at Walton.

P.C. Hearn describes in his book his use of firearms and fists in the course of his duty of making arrests—but not in peaceful Surrey. This is the story of his service in the Special Investigation Branch of the Royal Military Police, which was brought into being during 1940, because of the need for trained criminal investigation in the service of the armed forces of the Crown.

Its job was to deal with unusual or serious crimes committed against the members and property of the Forces.

The author's service in the S.I.B. brought him into contact with deserters, Fascists, thugs and black-marketeers, and he tells his story in a most readable book. Patient investigation is described as vividly as the exciting moments of action, and there are many touches of humour.

Although this special duty necessitated the use of arms, P.C. Hearn is opposed to the arming of police. He writes: "It naturally follows that when a policeman uses a gun to combat crime, the criminal will use a gun too. As the arrests mounted, so the gun play increased. The greatest mistake England could make, would be to arm its policemen."

"GUNSLINGER"

P.C. Hearn sums up his hazardous experiences in these words: "On the debit side I had become a 'gunslinger' in the true accepted sense, had shot, out-fought and killed, on an equal footing, ruthless international gangsters. I had, of necessity, to take life in order to preserve my own, and hated every minute of it.

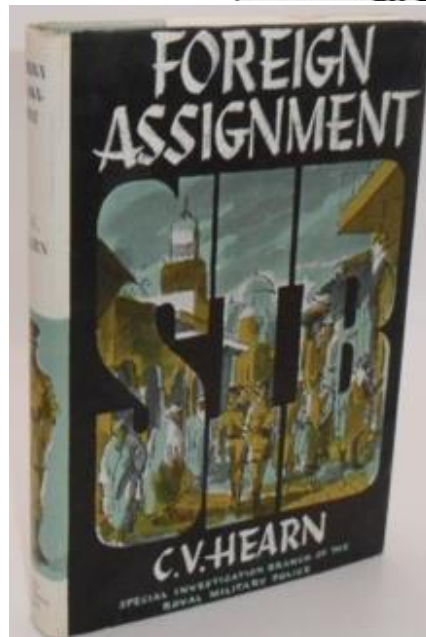
"Many others were languishing in gaol, robbed of all comfort, not because I was quicker with a gun, but because they knocked their heads in vain against an incorruptible legal system. They respected the law not through fear, but because the law respected them as individuals, and not mere pawns.

"Of the vices, I was a heavy drinker, a heavy smoker, a ruthless rat catcher. I was three stone lighter and looked like a refugee from Belsen. In passage of time, these matters would automatically adjust themselves.

"On the credit side, thousands were thankful for British justice. I had personally conducted nineteen murder cases and had assisted with eleven others. My experiences should stand in good stead when I climbed back into blue again."

The adventurous story begins in Algiers, where the author's investigations resulted in the Casbah of Algiers, described by the author as "the roughest, toughest sink of vice in the whole world," being barred to all Allied troops. From there it moves to Tunisia, and P.C. Hearn writes very critically of French police methods he saw.

After the invasion of Italy, his section was transferred and it is this portion of the book that forms the most exciting reading. As fiction it would be gripping—but this is the more fascinating because it is true.



CROSSING THE ROAD!

If you know Venice, city of canals, or are going there on holiday, listen to the Cautionary Case of the Three Drowned Soldiers.

It happened in wartime after the collapse of Italy.

Special investigator, C. V. Hearn, of the British Military Police, got a telegram:

"SUDDEN DEATH. SOLDIER. VENICE."

The city was full of sightseeing troops. This particular soldier had been found dead in a canal "under suspicious circumstances."

But Hearn could find no sign of foul play.

So he filed his report:

"FOUND DROWNED—CIRCUMSTANCES UNKNOWN."

Within days, another soldier was found drowned in a canal.

Again there were no signs of violence or foul play. Again Hearn reported:

"FOUND DROWNED—CIRCUMSTANCES UNKNOWN."

But he added: "In the event of a similar death inform SIB direct and treat as top priority."

Super CID

SIB was his own outfit—the Special Investigation Branch of the Military Police, or, as Hearn calls it, "the Super CID of the British Army."

Sure enough, soldier Number Three WAS found drowned. Another canal death.

There were no marks of violence—but Hearn found out that the dead man had been a reasonably good swimmer. How, then, had he got himself drowned?

Says Hearn in a fascinating new book: "The first death may have been suicide, the second could have been coincidental, but

**ALAN
FAIRCLOUGH
LOOKS
AT
BOOKS**

the third was too much a good thing."

In the end, Hearn was left with these three clues:

- ① The third dead man had been a heavy drinker.
- ② He had died on his birthday.
- ③ He was drunk when he died.

But did he fall or was he pushed?

HEARN was worried and baffled. But the four and vital clue turned up

Yet another unsteady English soldier WALKED into the canal and was fished out—ALIVE.

Wait For It!

When questioned, he said that he had stood on the side of the canal, waiting for the "traffic" to pass. When it had cleared, he tried to cross the "road"!

Three weeks later another soldier was fished out of the canal. He, too, said that he had thought he was crossing a road.

After that every soldier who had looked on the wine when it was red was warned not to mistake the canals for roads.

There were no more cases of "Found drowned—circumstances unknown."

I quote this episode from Mr. Hearn's exciting book "Foreign Assignment" (Hale, 16s.).

His career as an SIB agent was rough and tough. He had to become a sharp-shooting gunman to survive abroad, and some of his adventures are gruesome.

Especially in the tale of how he smuggled a refugee out of Yugoslavia in a coffin which already contained a corpse.

At forty-seven, Mr. Hearn is now a police-constable—one of the station officers at Walton-on-Thames.

1961 8 February Daily Mirror

1961 10th March Evening News London - **PC's book**- A book written by a Surrey Police Constable has sold out only a month after publication This claims the author, PC Cyril Hearn the most decorated N.C.O. of the war and now night duty officer at Walton, Surrey is an all-time record for a serving police officer. A lot of people read the book before it was published and the publishers had to have it vetted by the War Office, Foreign Office and the Special Investigations Branch of the Royal Military Police.

The book "Foreign Assignments" is about PC Hearn's time as a police sergeant with S.I.B. in North Africa, Italy and Trieste. His comments about the way the French authorities handled Arab civilians in N. Africa are so scathing that a copy of the book sent to the French Embassy

was returned with a polite note indicating that any attempt to publish the book in France would result in prosecution for the author. PC Hearn who earned 15 national and international decorations pulled no punches in his work and he pulls none in his book. At his home next to Walton police station he said "The generals have told us how they won the war. I thought it was about time one of the blokes who did the work gave his side".

1961 18th March Surrey Advertiser - **Reprint ordered for PC'S first book** - Remarkable success has attended the book "Foreign Assignment", the author of which is PC C.V. Hearn, station officer at Walton. The first edition has been sold out within a month of publication and the publishers, Robert Hale Ltd hope the second edition will be available in two to three weeks' time.

The last six copies were secured by Mr. Dashwood of the Fountain Bookshop at Walton who says the sales of Mr. Hearn's book have been quite remarkable. It is most unusual, he said, to have a first book by an unknown author reprinted so soon after publication. He had never known one to have such tremendous success in such a short time. PC Hearn is naturally pleased at the success and says it is a wonderful thing to have happened to him.

EX-GUARDSMAN

Before joining the Surrey Constabulary in 1937, the author served for seven years in the Coldstream Guards. On the outbreak of war he was recalled to the army and posted to the Corps of Military Police. For a short time he was a dispatch rider and then transferred to the military C.I.D. at Aldershot before taking a commission. He voluntarily transferred to the newly formed S.I.B., and was accepted after a stiff examination in law.

In 1943 he was posted overseas and saw service in Africa, then took part in the invasion of Italy.

At the end of the war he was suffering from wounds and burns and needed some months of convalescence. He then rejoined the police force, first as a village constable, then doing squad car work, arresting many criminals. But when his eyesight began causing trouble he was transferred to his present position as station officer at Walton.

P.C. Hearn's hobbies are gardening, boats and boat-building and his spare time is taken up with voluntary work, lecturing and writing. He frequently visits Italy to see wartime friends and to collect material on the Italian police system for a series of short stories. He is also engaged in research work into the Russian police system and plans to visit the Soviet Union shortly.

CV Hearn⁴

Cyril Hearn's biographical work: Hearn, C. (1964). With Royal Military Police Special Investigation Branch in North Africa & Italy during WWII. London: The Adventurers Club. From a policeman extraordinary and one of England's most decorated men, C.V. Hearn, here is a racy account and graphic portrayal of the thrilling stories of wartime crime, when the author was a member of the Army's little-known Special Investigation Branch. Of the many battlegrounds of WWII none gripped the British public's imagination as strongly as North Africa. In this fast-moving story of a fast-moving, fluid war, the author has chosen the more exotic, the more bizarre and the more un-English types of crime committed abroad. *Desert Assignment* bristles with exciting incident involving murderers, arms traffickers, drug peddlers, espionage, dope, vice and intrigue on a grand style.

C.V. Hearn was known as a tough, plain-speaking policeman, who upheld the traditions of law and order, honestly and impartially. He pulled no punches in his work and pulls none in this book. The qualities of British policemen are well known throughout the world - quiet, helpful, efficient, stolid, and calm in the face of chaos, with the ability to make big decisions when the occasion demands. Instead, Hearn became a tough and ruthless breaker of international gangs and excelled as a fast-shooting law enforcement officer, allied with a Cockney wit, a determined spirit and a profound respect for British justice and police methods.

CMP. 62 Sect SIB. From New Malden. Regimental number in London Gazette reads 6769162, see this number for more details. Cyril Victor Hearn. He was the author of three books *Desert Assignment*, *Foreign Assignment* and *Russian Assignment*. All stories relating to his wartime service in the SIB. C V Hearn joined the Surrey Constabulary after the war and wrote two books about his wartime SIB days, they were *Foreign Assignment* and *Desert Assignment*.⁵

1959 Cyril V. Hearn BEM: Nick Brent:⁶ I knew CV or Dickie Hearn as he was known to all his friends. I first met him when I was a boy cadet in 1959 stationed at Walton on Thames. He was on permanent station office duties and a more helpful, nice and flamboyant character you could not wish to meet. The story told about him leaving his station office duties to go out and arrest someone, which was before I joined, was typical of him. I have known him to abandon his station duties to go over to the local cinema opposite to turf out rowdy youths rather than get someone else to do it. Who would do that sort of thing now? While I was at Walton, he took me very much under his wing. His books were written mainly during duty time whilst on night station office duties. His first book which was called *Foreign Assignment* was about his wartime S.I.B. duties in Italy and I was very privileged to be the only person in the nick to be given a free copy which he signed "To my pal Nick for your kindness" I can't think what I did to deserve that comment other than to look after the switchboard and customers whilst he was writing his book, but anyway I still treasure that book even if only to prove to some people including my wife that I can be kind. Robert Hale Limited of 63, Old Brompton Road, S.W.7, published that first book in 1961. He then went on to write

⁴ War time photo for Cyril Hearn copied from his book *Foreign Assignment* by Nick Brent

⁵ <http://www.corpsmilitarypolice.org/soldier/465/>

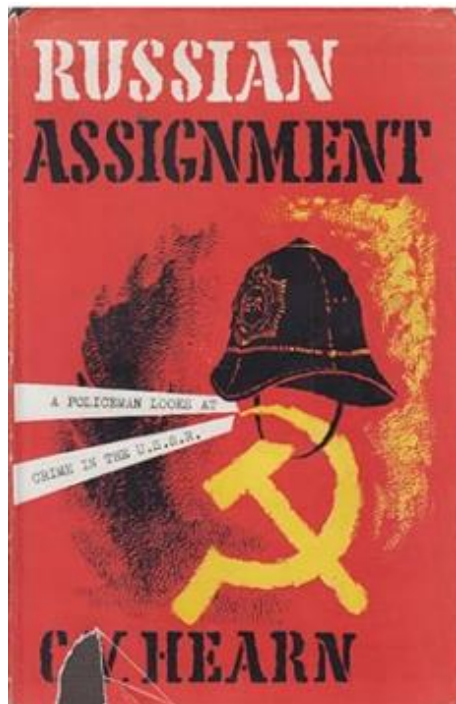
⁶ The Working Life of the Surrey Constabulary www.surrey-constabulary.com

others as already mentioned previously, in O. & B. Dickie lived in the police quarters adjoining the police station with his wife Alice and he spent his spare time building a houseboat at the back of the Nick, which I believe, sank whilst being launched on the Thames at the Cowie Sale, or so I heard. They never had any children of their own but did adopt a boy named George Churchill-Colman. He also joined the military police and like Dickie served in the SIB. He later joined the Metropolitan Police and went on to be Commander of the Bomb Squad in the 1970s and 1980s. Unfortunately, Dickie suffered from angina and retired on ill health grounds. He then went to live at Egham where he worked for a local solicitor. He remained a dear friend and even attended my wedding and presented us with a coffee table that he made as a wedding present. He was also a very great friend of Detective Sergeant Bill Bruce who was aircrew in the war and shot down over Germany where he was taken prisoner. Dickie died at Egham I believe at the age of sixty-nine and unfortunately gone forever was one of world's characters rich in humour, compassion and patience.

1962 Electoral Register for 2 Police House New Zealand Avenue Walton on Thames lists Cyril V and Alice M Hearn

**RUSSIAN ASSIGNMENT: A Policeman Looks at
Crime in the U.S.S.R.** C. V. HEARN
P.-C. Extraordinary, ex-member of the Army's Special Investigation Branch, Hearn went to Moscow to enquire into crime and punishment and everyday life in Russia. His account is highly informative, frank and fresh.
Illustrated. July 18/-

1962 10TH February Bookseller London



1962 4th July Liverpool Echo- Bookshelf - Russian Close-Up - When PC Hearn appeared in uniform in the streets of Moscow he caused a sensation. Hundreds of souvenir hunters tried to snatch his helmet. He was the first English "Bobby" the Muscovites had ever seen. In "Russian Assignment" (published by Hale, 18s) he promises a stimulating close-up of crime and punishment behind the Iron Curtain.

1962 5th August The People - Adventure PC in '**Bomb**' drama on bridge- PC Cyril (Dickie) Hearn Special Branch man during the war and author of two books about his adventures found himself in the middle of another real-life drama yesterday. He was on duty at Walton on Thames when 26-year-old Francis Elliott cycled up and said, "There's a bomb under the bridge" Dickie didn't hesitate, he ran to the bridge spanning the Thames and found the "bomb" – a ticking clockwork mechanism connected to a battery and a phial of liquid like highly explosive nitroglycerine. On the side was painted the neo-Nazi sign of a cross in a circle. Police cleared the bridge of traffic and holiday makers and a bomb disposal expert was sent for. PC Hearn and Mr. Elliott then started gently to remove the "bomb", the policeman poking his finger into the clockwork to stop it ticking. The two men then carried it to the riverbank and lowered it into shallow water but when the bomb expert arrived two hours later to explode the "bomb" all that went off was the detonator.

A police spokesman said, "It was clear that this was a very elaborate hoax". PC Hearn said "I've had some pretty narrow escapes and plenty of adventure, but this is the first time I have experienced a bomb scare and I don't want any more."

The following document source has been lost. PC Cyril V. Hearn MP SIB served in the Middle East and published a book "Desert Assignment" (and others about police service serialised in a national Sunday newspaper) much to the consternation of Herman Rutherford and the Standing Joint Committee who attempted to block its publication. As a point of interest he was a "character". On one occasion in 1957 a Traffic car driven by Roland Cise was near Weybridge when it was sent to an address in Burwood Park where an intruder had been disturbed. Roly was not sure where this particular (large) house was situated. The crew called in at Walton police station (early hours of the morning) and found it deserted although open! No sign of a station officer. The car went to Burwood Park and saw a house lit like a Christmas tree and assumed they had found the address and that the intruder had long disappeared. There was a Rolls Royce, index TT1, on the drive and near it, an older Morris or Austin. PC Cise knocked on the door and the officers were shown into the lounge. Lo and behold sat on the large sofa were Tommy Trinder and Cyril Hearn who had the intruder handcuffed to him. All three were supping whisky. Cyril said he overheard the radio message whilst in the police station. As he knew TT he had jumped in his car and done the business. Cyril was about to publish another book just before his retirement whilst at Walton. During his last week a report of a bomb was received having been found on Walton Bridge. The newspapers reported that the scene was visited by "much decorated PC Cyril Hearn who defused the bomb and made it safe, etc. PC Hearn this week releases a book etc." I seem to remember the bomb was an Oxo tin or something similar. Dutchie Holland nearly had a seizure but that was Cyril. Unfortunately, Cyril had poor health later on and didn't

particularly make old bones. Some reader out there will remember him better than I, he retired I think living in Egham.

PROBABLY the only author to publicly thank his bank manager for making his book possible by loaning him the fare to Russia is the Battersen-born and bred policeman writer, C. V. Hearn, whose second book, "Russian Assignment," has just been published.

It seems little more than a year ago that I reviewed his first book "Foreign Assignment" in which he told of his adventures as a gunman—strictly legal—while serving with the S.I.B. during the war. At the time he told me he was working on a book on Russian police methods, law and crime.

Since then he has spent some time in Russia during which he received the utmost co-operation from the Professor of Criminology at Moscow University, the Editor of the Literary Gazette, Moscow, who gained for him access to Soviet Courts which are normally barred to western visitors, and many other authorities elsewhere.

Comrades under a microscope

MR. Hearn, still a policeman serving as station officer at Walton-on-Thames, worked with his Russian counterparts — and argued with them — during the war and this contact first aroused his interest in Russian crime and the methods used in dealing with it. As he told me this week, "I wanted the everyday background of the Russians' lives, their ambitions, their thoughts, conditions under which they lived and survived, in fact a microscopic domestic examination of what life is like for the ordinary citizen in a Police state. This had never been done before."

The result is a book that should provide interesting reading for a wide range of people. Lawyers and politicians will be interested so too, will Mr. Hearn's colleagues in the British police, as well as the man in the street, for he covers crime and punishment, juvenile delinquency, sport, current affairs, local civil administration and even prostitution.

More plain speaking

HIS other book, "Foreign Assignment" made instant impact through its plain speaking — it had a second edition within six months, was serialised, banned in France and had foreign translation—and this latest effort is likely to be equally successful.

He first laid plans for the book just after the war but he worked solidly on it for the past two years. Apart from his research first hand in Russia, he read over 30 Soviet books, mainly on law.

He avoided "coloured" British and American contemporaries, his aim being a factual book as fair and neutral as he could make it.

It was a formidable task for a second book but he has achieved and he set out to do.

Next ready for publication

AS was the case when "Foreign Assignment" was published, he is already at work on his next.

"At the moment I am engaged in research work into juvenile delinquency and Red China and will later be publishing books on these subjects.

But before these make their appearance, watch the book-stalls for his third book, "Desert Assignment" which is due out in the spring.

"Russian Assignment" is published by Robert Hale at 18s.

P.C. makes inquiries— for his book on Russia

MR. C. V. Hearn, P.C. extraordinary of the Surrey Constabulary, who is station officer at Walton-on-Thames, has this week had his second book published, under the title of "Russian Assignment," by Robert Hale at 18s.

His first book, "Foreign Assignment," was an immediate success, the first edition being sold out within a few weeks. His new work is a worthy successor and should prove an equally good seller.

It was last year that P.C. Hearn visited Russia, with the object of recording his impressions in book form. He describes his book as a "potted account of some aspects of modern Russia, in which a British policeman's view of crime and punishment, law, juvenile delinquency, road traffic problems and the police themselves are the chief topics." His appearance in Moscow in his policeman's uniform caused quite a stir, and the book contains a photograph of him outside the Hotel Berlin with two of the receptionists.

During his visit to Russia he was allowed to go where he wished, to talk freely to whom he chose without restriction or supervision. He emphasises this when he writes, "they were fully aware that I was writing a book about them and they were aware that I would obviously criticise, yet they gave me as much information as I could reasonably expect and no reasonable request was refused."

MYSTERIES

The book is well written, and in an enlightening and interesting way gives a factual account of the author's impressions of life behind the Iron Curtain. He throws quite a deal of light on what to most people in this country remains mysteries. It contains a considerable amount of practical information, presented in a clear and concise manner. In his chapter of first impressions he writes: "The Russians are disarmingly honest, narrow in outlook, parochially-minded, which is hardly their fault, since they are so remote and cut off from the rest of the world. Individual hospitality quickly overcomes international differences, however."

As the book is styled "A policeman looks at crime in the U.S.S.R.," naturally a number of chapters are devoted to police work, and the author makes some striking comparisons between Russians methods and our own.

He writes in one chapter: "My main object in visiting Russia was to find out how their police state worked, how their policemen were respected, how much a part of life they were. I had served with some of them during the war and wanted to see how they behaved in their own country. The system hasn't changed. To all intents and purposes they are still part of the armed defence forces."

'CATS AND DOGS'

"The average policeman in England is a devoted public servant. The

reverse is the case in Russia: he is there to enforce the regulations. Police and public are natural enemies, like cats and dogs. In fact, the average Russian hates the word 'police' and detests your calling them a 'modern police state.' Those that are critical of our system should pause and think again. The functions of the Russian militia and British police make interesting reading."

Later he writes: "Ordinary British people are not greatly concerned with the intricacies of legal systems, preferring to leave it to the judges, lawyers and policemen. They are, however, keenly interested in fair play, a fair trial. The sudden imposition of Communist law in this country would result in such an explosion that Communism would be defeated before it ever gained a foothold."

Also in the chapter on the people's police he writes: "Under their laws, imprisonment without trial, arrests without a charge, censorship of the Press, direction of labour, restrictions on labour, no habeas corpus, make for harsh reading. Apart from East Europe, Portugal and Spain, Russia is the only country in the world where its people are completely under control and where force will always be met with greater force."

'CYNICISM'

"Compared with our more tolerant system, their freedom laws merely underline the cynicism that characterises Communism. American segregation and African apartheid are milk and water diets in comparison."

Not all the author's criticism is adverse however, and there are many aspects for which he has praise and commendation.

The book contains chapters on law-making, punishment, juvenile delinquency, the teenager, a view on sex, the people's courts and the workers' courts.

P.C. Hearn covers a more general field in other chapters dealing with current affairs, education, and two chapters on religion (one the present and one the future), among other matters.

On the future of religion, he writes: "Without the slightest doubt, and before this century is over, impossible as it may seem, Russia, whatever form its Government make take, will have to be classed as a Christian country."

Although written largely in a serious strain, there are touches of humour, which make it a delightful and informative book to read.

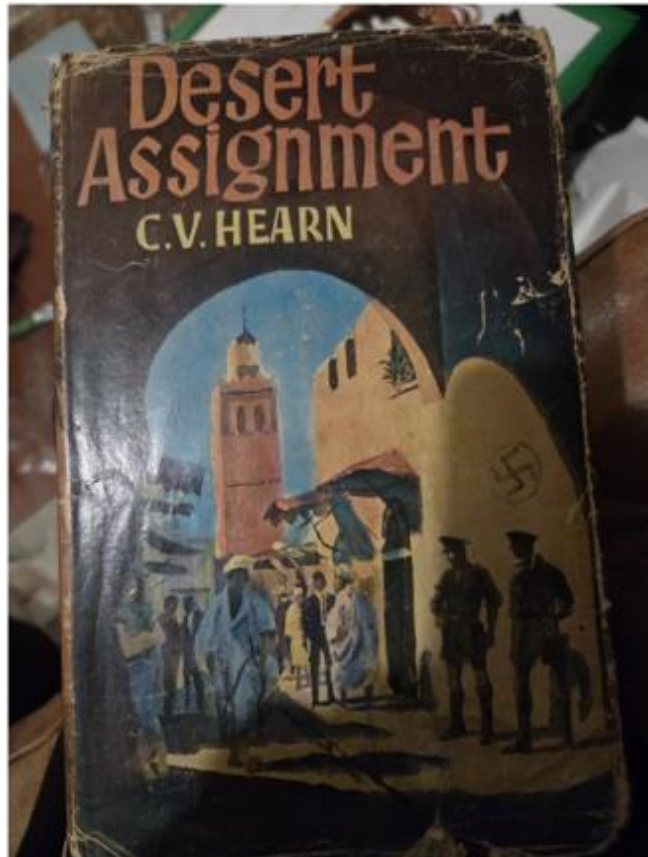
P.C. Hearn is a much decorated man and a member of the International Police Association.

("Russian Assignment," C. V. Hearn. Published by Robert Hale Ltd., 18s.).

1962 18th August Surrey Advertiser

1962 25th August Evening News (London) - PC'S Assignment - PC C V Hearn of the Surrey Constabulary stationed at Walton on Thames has just had his second book "Russian

Assignment” published. He visited Russia last year to gather material. His first book “Foreign Assignment” was an immediate success.



POLICE Constable Cyril Hearn, 50 (seen above), lives in a £4,000 luxury flat, has a private secretary—and earns as much as his Chief Constable. Cyril, PC 410 with twenty-five years in the force, makes more money writing books than on the beat. “But I love police work,” he said at his Runnymede, Surrey, home, “and I won’t give it up until I have to.”

1963 5th May Sunday Mirror

DAILY EXPRESS TUESDAY OCTOBER 21 1963
TOP CRIME WRITERS CHOOSE CLOTHES TO STOP A MAN IN HIS TRACKS

UNDRESSED

C. V. HEARN (policeman author of "The Desert Assignment" talked to me from the police station after disposing of "a body in a car"). In his novels it's undressed girls who get most of his attention. "A knock on the door produced a female in a state of undress that would have done credit to a film starlet entering her bath tub."

But his real-life taste is a very different story. "I like a woman to look feminine, rather lady-like — nothing of a beatnik. I like simple country tweeds — and twinsets. And blue."

His only concession to high fashion are slinky cocktail dresses, although he does confess to a sneaking admiration for the international James Bond sort of girl "But I know I could never afford them."

1963 22nd October Daily Express

A POLICE CHIEF BANS PC's BOOK



Author P.C. Hearn.

'You may lose pension'

By WILLIAM DUNCAN

A CHIEF constable has banned a book written by one of his men about the decline in relations between the police and the public.

The book, "A Funny Thing Happened To Me When I Got To The Police Station," was written by P.C. 410 Cyril "Dickie" Hearn.

But Surrey's Chief Constable, Mr. Herman Rutherford, does not think it so funny. He has forbidden its publication.

Pipe-smoking Police-Constable Hearn, 51, station officer at Egham, Surrey, police station and in the force twenty-five years, planned to get round the ban by retiring.

But he has been warned that his £10 a week pension is in jeopardy if the book—due out in August—is published.

Author Hearn—probably the only constable in the country with his own private secretary—has written three other books and earns as much as his chief constable.

He wears Savile Row suits when off duty and lives in a luxury flat at Rungymede, Surrey.

In this fourth book he condemns outdated laws and police methods, excessive red tape and paper work, glib magistrates and judges, psychiatrists and social do-gooders.

Spoiled

The book, which will reach the publishers tomorrow morning, mentions "senior police officers behaving like spoiled Z-Cars nits."

"Stop pursuing the motorist. Scrap the Road Traffic Act. . . ."

Persecution of the motorist is brought about, says Police-Constable Hearn, by the tendency for the force to judge a policeman on the number of convictions he gets.

It was police regulations that required Police-Constable Hearn to submit his manuscript to his Chief Constable for approval.

Mr. Rutherford's comment: "It is extreme and inaccurate and he cannot publish it during his service."

1964 3rd May Sunday Mirror

THE BOOK-BAN PC CAN'T GO ON TV

THE policeman whose book has been banned by his chief constable has now been refused permission to appear on television.

Mr. Mike Hill, one of the production team on the BBC's Tonight programme, said last night that the policeman, Constable Dicky Hearn, had agreed to appear in the programme—subject to official approval.

Mr. Hill said: "I telephoned Surrey's assistant Chief Constable, Mr. Ernest Hall, who told me he would not allow Police-Constable Hearn to appear.

"He talked to me at some length, saying that his was a disciplinary force and he couldn't have its members giving their opinion about it. It was all pretty authoritarian stuff.

Public

"We wanted to question Police - Constable Hearn about his book.

"It is obvious that people are disturbed about the relations between the police and the public.

"For all the theorising we have had we have never had the views of a copper on the beat. I pointed out to the assistant chief constable that one is left wondering what the police are trying to hide."

Police - Constable Hearn refused to comment last night.

1964 6th May Daily Mirror

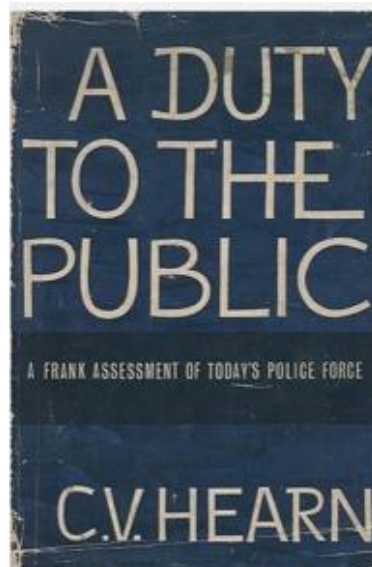
1964 9th May Bookseller London - **Policeman's book** - Prominent in the news this week has been PC Hearn of Egham, author of three books on the police in overseas countries who has run into trouble with his fourth, which is about the police in this country. He was reported last weekend as saying that he had shown the book to his chief and was not to be allowed to publish it.

The BBC tried to get PC Hearn to discuss his book on the television "Tonight" programme, but he is not allowed to appear. The Daily Mail devoted its leading editorial article to the matter on Tuesday May 5th declaring "The Mighty Home Office should be strong enough to say to a copper: publish and be damned!" The paper quotes the Chief Constable of Surrey as saying that the book is "a very poor effort; it is extreme and inaccurate" This, says the paper is literary criticism and why, it asks should ex-ministers have access to Cabinet documents, or Field Marshals to secret information to compile their memoirs while an ordinary policeman is not permitted to "tell all"?

Robert Hale, who are PC Hearn's publishers (his three earlier books being "Foreign Assignment", "Russian Assignment", and "A policeman looks at crime in the U.S.S.R.") say they only received the MS of the book on Monday evening after the news of the "banning" had been published. They have told the author that they are prepared to publish it with revisions-revisions which are desired by their editorial department, and which have nothing to do with the question of permission.

1964 2nd July Daily Mirror - **Banned Book PC To leave force** - A policeman who was forbidden by his Chief Constable to publish a book about life in the force, said that he has decided to retire. Police Constable Cyril, (Dickie) Hearn of Egham Surrey will be hanging up his helmet after twenty-six years' service. He has got a job as a technical author. The book which worried his chief - "A funny thing happened to me when I got to the police station" will now be published early next year.

1965 13th February Bookseller



A DUTY TO THE PUBLIC

C. V. HEARN

The author had to resign his job as a constable to publish this frank assessment of today's police force.

18/- July

1965 16th June Daily Express - Medal sent back - Protest over the Beatles- The **BEM (British Empire Medal)** is being sent back by Mr. Cyril Hearn of Runnymede Surrey, an ex-policeman turned author. He won the medal for chasing a gang of bandits in Italy during the war. "I was frightened as hell", he said, "but I like to think I earned it honourably. There is nothing brave in yawping at a howling mob of teenagers with a million pounds in the bank"

**AN EX-PC
HITS AT
TOP BRASS**

By NORMAN LUCAS

AN ex-policeman who is a best-selling author today blames authority for the decline in police-public relations.

He is 52-year-old C. V. "Dickie" Hearn, who says: "My target is the Home Office and the Treasury, who make responsible people behave irresponsibly."

And he raps senior officers for encouraging policemen to be over-zealous.

"Far too often, cases of brutality are reported. Far too often, regulations are twisted and stretched."

The charges are in "A Duty to the Public" (Muller, 21s.) the latest book by Mr. Hearn, until recently a constable in the Surrey force.

Petty

He also complains that police are:

TIED DOWN with petty inquiries;

HIDEBOUND with complicated ancient forms;

HAMSTRUNG by shortage of men.

He says that we expect our policemen to have the stamina of Gordon Pirie, the strength of Jack Dempsey, the shrewdness of Solomon, the ingenuity of Sherlock Holmes, the insight of Maigret, the wisdom of Socrates, the good humour of George Dixon, the toughness of Chief Inspector Barlow, and the patience of a saint.

"You can't get people like that for £1,000 a year," he adds.

1965 22nd July Daily Mirror

1965 31st July Bookseller - Well Timed- Published by Muller on July 22nd "A duty to the public", a book about the police by the controversial ex-policeman C V Hearn, immediately attracted a great deal of attention in the press and on seven different TV and radio programmes. Lord Willis said that the book "comes out in my view not a moment too soon" and that while being an illumination for the average reader it should become a reference work for those presently fighting to abate the increase in crime, "Twenty -four hours after the publication of the book came the announcement that the number of indictable offences recorded in 1964 had for the first time passed the million mark.

Closed-circuit justice?

Patrick Gaffney

C. V. HEARN: "A Duty to the Public" (21s. Muller).

Constable Hearn, Britain's most-decorated copper (four rows of medal ribbons) and surely the most communicative (four books to his name) had to resign from the force to write this "frank assessment of today's police," and he says its publication has put his pension in jeopardy.

In brief, breathless and very often verbless sentences he barks out his condemnation of the way the force is run, singling out the senior administration and the Home Office as his prime targets. Perhaps it's unfair to comment style-wise on a book offered primarily as a polemic, but Hearn's idiosyncratic delivery sometimes takes the edge off the points he wants to drive home.

The admittedly central police problems are the endemic shortage of men and the significant numbers who resign after a few years service. Here are some of the reasons advanced in this book: official parsimony, especially on pay and overtime; rigid thinking and nepotism among the desk-bound top brass; the policeman's truncated family and social life—in some cases even these areas have been invigilated by his superiors; the endless flow of fresh legislation that seems to create new crimes almost every day; the mountainous paper-chase that keeps keen officers from their real job of catching villains, and—significantly—the numbers of arrests "both unjust and contrary to commonsense."

Most of these issues, in outline at least, will be familiar; but here comes the crunch—Hearn's documented charges on the Star Chamber methods by which different forces

deal with erring coppers under the Police Discipline Code. I select one well-nigh incredible example from a catalogue of closed-circuit justice:

A village p.c.'s help was sought in a case of marital trouble—no crime or offence on the horizon—and the way I read this, most people of good-will would say he acted with humanity and commonsense. It's possible that he might have made the wrong decision, but did he deserve the draconian penalty—a fine and reduction of pay totalling £250? Hearn stresses that judgments like this are handed down in camera.

At the other end of the scale, the case is cited of a police superintendent caught in the act of making an obscene telephone call to a woman—after a rash of local complaints. Hearn says he was allowed to resign with pension rights.

On this form, the chapter heading "Police Violence" alerts the reader for uninhibited disclosures; but this section is singularly disappointing. Hearn's argument leans heavily on the old-time copper's theory: "Better give them a kick in the pants or a clip on the ear than a summons to court," and it's almost entirely devoted to elbow-nudging reminiscences on this theme.

But however harsh recent criticism of the police may have been, Hearn's literary arm-lock swings us round to face the fact that the police are there, and they are what they are, because our society is too timid and too fastidious to do its own dirty work. When the chips are down, it's the bobby on the beat who tackles the neds with their chivs and broken bottles—not the chap who's always writing to the newspapers.

1965 31ST July The Scotsman Edinburgh

Dickie appears to have become a private detective/inquiry agent.

1967 9th December Surrey Advertiser- **Deserted her husband** - Mr. Peter Robert John Ansell of Sheepfold Road, Stoughton was granted a decree nisi in the Divorce Court on the grounds of desertion and adultery by his wife, Mrs. Peggy Audrey Ansell, who offered no defence. Evidence was also given by Mr. Cyril Victor Hearn, **an inquiry agent**.

1969 27th November Daily Mirror - Beatles Row Man **wants his BEM back**. A man who returned his British Empire Medal to the Queen in protest against the Beatles MBE awards four years ago wants it back. Mr Cyril Hearn who won his award for wartime bravery made his decision after John Lennon returned his award in disgust at the Vietnam and Biafra wars. In a letter to the Queen, Mr Hearn, 56, wrote "Whilst not agreeing with all his way-out ideas he has done the right thing. He brings into sharp relief all the hocus pocus and prostitution of the Honours list"

Mr Hearn of Runnymede Egham Surrey added "I feel justified in asking for mine to be returned. The balance has been restored". A Buckingham Palace spokesman said "We will return Mr Hearn's medal as soon as we receive his application"

1969 27th November Shropshire Star- **Palace hunts lost BEM**. Mr Cyril Hearn BEM is to get his medal back. He was awarded it in 1944 for chasing an armed gang of bandits in Italy when he was in the Special Investigation Branch of the military police but returned it to the Queen in protest when the Beatles were awarded the MBE four years ago. Now that John Lennon no longer wants his MBE, Mr Hearn has written asking for his BEM back. Buckingham Palace is trying to trace it. A spokesman saying that if he handed it in at the palace, he will presumably have a receipt of some kind. In the meanwhile, they are trying to trace the medal which was probably sent on to the Ministry of Defence. When it is established that the medal was handed in, Mr Hearn will get it back.



1970 28th July Western Daily Press

1971 2nd May Cyril Victor Hearn of 16 Mandeville CT Runnymede Surrey **died**, probate London 18th January 1972, £1466.

All of Cyril Hearn's books are available to buy online.

PC80 Edward Thomas Powis
Surrey Constabulary
Army Commando Second World War

An entry was made in issue 133 of this Journal setting out the career of Edward Powis. Since then, more detail has been recovered and so the piece with additional material appears in this edition. Research by Jenny Tuffs, Tony Moore late Metropolitan Police and Robert Simonson, Surrey History Centre

Born. Edward Thomas Powis was born 13th July 1916 and baptized at Holy Trinity Church Twickenham on 6th August 1916, his parents were Herbert Edward, a locomotive fireman and Elsie Powis of 74, Third Cross Road.

1921 Census Edward, his parents and grandmother (Mary Powis) are still living at 74, Third Cross Road, Twickenham.

1931 July Several newspapers reported the death of Edward's father.

An engine driver named Herbert Edward Powis, whose body was found on the railway near Egham Surrey left a note stating that ever since he had had influenza he had been "losing his reason."

1934 11th May West Sussex Times - At Horsham Petty Sessions Edward Thomas Powis of Third Cross Road, Twickenham was fined 10s for riding a motorcycle without a hooter and 5s for failing to exhibit a road licence.

1937 9th May he joined Surrey Constabulary.



Edward Thomas POWIS

Age 20 years. Date of Birth 13 July 1916 Height 5 feet 10 1/2 inches. Complexion Fresh Hair Dark

Eyes U. Blue Marks None

Born in the Parish of Swickham in the County of Wiltshire

Trade Clerk. Last Residence 44 Third Cross Rd, Swickham

By whom last employed, and where Mr S. Bowyer of Swickham

What relatives residing in Surrey, and where Uncle at Ash

Previous Public Service None

Length of Service

Date of Appointment 9th May 1934 No. on Collar 8

When sworn in, and where 14th May 1937 at Gillingford

Before what Magistrates Capt E. N. Tuckwell & Mr R. P. Bray

Where first stationed Egham (15.5.37)

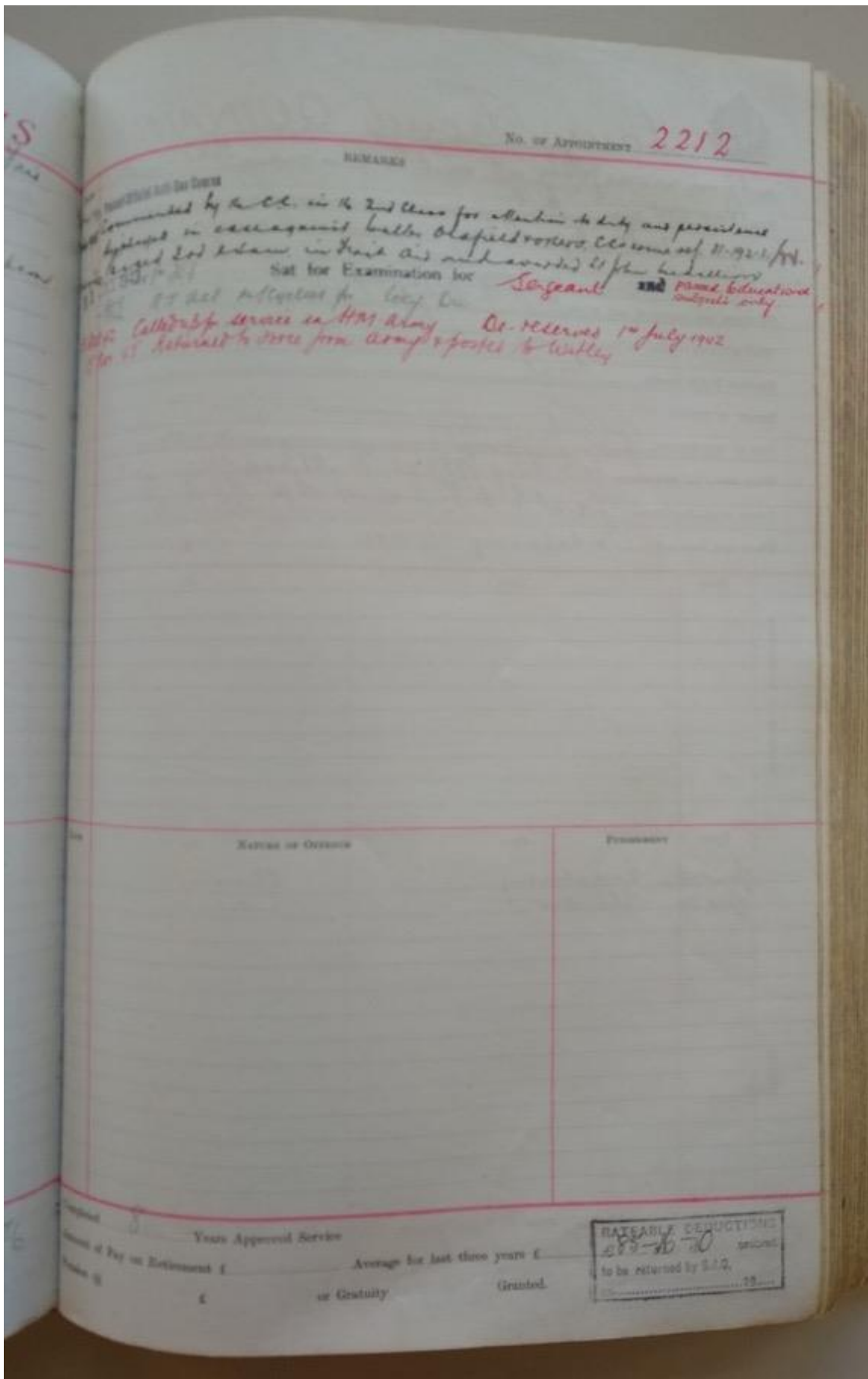
PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS	DATE	FROM	TO
REMOVALS	DATE	FROM	TO
	7th Feb 1938	Egham	Egham Hurke /
12th Mar 41	Egham Hyde	Wentworth	
22 June 42	Wentworth	Egham Hyde	
15th Oct 42	Egham Hyde	Army	
15th Nov 45	Army	Witley	

Cause and Date of removal from the Force Resigned voluntarily 5th June 1946

Conduct during Service

Date of Parchment Certificate 7 Jan 46

A 220. 22.41. 27.10.22. 8.C.A. 798.



Defaulter's book ref. 9152/1/2/1/5 Robert Simonson Woking History Centre.

1937 10th July Surrey Advertiser – Egham - Lorry through fence - A fine of £4 with £1 costs was imposed by Chertsey Magistrates on John J Maughan of 48, Edgell Road, Staines for driving a motor lorry in a dangerous manner at Egham on 18th May. His licence was suspended for six months. William Simmonds of 15, Claremont Road, Egham said he was cycling along Thorpe Road towards Staines and as he approached South Avenue the defendants' lorry came towards him at speed. In trying to take a small bend the lorry struck the kerb, skidded 50 yards then swung across the road clearing the witness by about 6 inches - PC Powis said the defendant's lorry crashed through a garden fence and came to rest 3 feet from the house. The defendant admitted it was bad driving on his part but if he had not struck the kerb, he would not have skidded.

1937 28th August Surrey Advertiser – Egham-Chertsey magistrates fined Nancy Chalcraft of St Clement's Egham 20s for using a goods vehicle without a "C" licence at Egham on 12th June – PC Powis said the vehicle was carrying homemade cakes and jam. The defendant told him she had sent for a license but had not received it.

1937 In September PC Powis played **cricket** for Weybridge Division in the final of the Sant Cup. The victory by Weybridge by 21 runs was largely due to excellent batting on a bowler's wicket by Powis (13 not out).

1937 13th November Surrey Advertiser - Egham -at Chertsey Police Court. Lionel Richardson (17) of the 4th Hussars stationed at Aldershot was charged **with stealing a gentleman's pedal cycle, value £2 10s and a raincoat value 10s** the property of Albert Arthur Best, 65, The Avenue, Egham on October 29th. PC Powis said he saw the defendant detained at Buntingford Police Station, Herts and conveyed him to Weybridge Police Station. When charged he replied, "I was desperate to have a cycle" The defendant was bound over for one year and handed over to the Army Authorities. An officer told the court the defendant had been in the Army for 8 months, and they were willing to take him back.

1938 18th February Staines and Egham News - An Egham man was fined 20s for driving **without a current driving licence.** Richard Stephens of the Spot Café had produced his old licence to PC Powis which was 215 days out of date.

1938 21st May Surrey Advertiser - When Ernest Reginald Jaffrey of Oakfield, Green Lane, Egham was summoned at Chertsey Police Court for keeping a **dog without a licence**, he said he took possession of the dog out of sympathy. PC Powis said defendant got a licence half an hour after he was spoken to about the offence. The case was dismissed on payment of 4s costs.

1938 15th October Surrey Advertiser. Robbery Virginia Water

VIRGINIA WATER

EARLY MORNING ARREST

ALLEGED ROBBERY AT VIRGINIA WATER

The arrest of a man at Egham railway station early on Wednesday was described at Chertsey Police Court on Wednesday, when Oliver Sims (22), a clerk, of no fixed abode, was charged with entering The Red House, Virginia Water, the residence of Florence Mary Page, and stealing articles to the value of £22.

P.C. Powis said that at 5.45 a.m. that morning, when keeping observation at Egham railway station, he saw accused in the waiting room. Witness told him that a burglary had been committed at Virginia Water, and asked him to explain his movements. Accused told him he spent the evening with a Mr. Downham, of The Garth House, Virginia Water, and left at about 1.30 a.m. to return to London. From inquiries witness found that explanation was false, and took accused to Egham police station. When told that further inquiries would be made, Sims said, "I have been up to some funny business at Virginia Water."

On the way to the police station accused broke away. Witness gave chase and caught him. At Egham police station witness found in Sims's possession a gold fountain pen and a dress ring, the subject of the charge. When charged accused said, "I have nothing to say."

Sims was remanded in custody until next Wednesday.

1939 Register for 143, Wendover Road, Egham lists Edward T Powis born 13th July 1916, single, a regular police officer and Elsie Powis, born 20th November 1890 a widow.

1939 10th June Surrey Advertiser Egham - **Too Strong Headlight** - For showing a light of more than 7watts on a stationary vehicle at Egham, Stanley R Leighton of The Shanty, Laleham Road, Staines was fined 10s at Chertsey police court. He was also fined 2s 6d for failing to sign his driving licence. PC Powis said the nearside head lamp was showing a very powerful light of between 24 and 36 watts which dazzled traffic coming to Egham from Hythe.

1940 18th May Surrey Advertiser – **motoring offences.**

FOUR OFFENCES ALLEGED

To enable defendant to be legally represented, Chertsey magistrates on Wednesday adjourned for seven days summonses against Cecil Edwin Ricketts, of 14, Church-road, Bagshot, for fraudulently using a Road Fund licence, having no insurance, no driving licence, and failing to screen the rear light of a car.—Evidence was given by P.C. Powis, who stated that he stopped defendant in the Glanty, Egham. Ricketts was driving a Humber car containing four people. On examining the Road Fund licence it was found it referred to a Standard car, belonging to Mr. A. E. Butler, of Bagshot. On visiting Mr. Butler's garage he saw the Standard car and found that the front of the vehicle had been badly smashed. Ricketts was unable to produce a driving licence or an insurance policy.

Mr. Butler said he was out when Ricketts took the car, and he did not give him permission to take it. The Humber car had not been taxed.—Ricketts stated that some people came to the garage and told him they had been all over the district to try and hire a car, but had not been able to. The Humber car was the only one left in the garage, and he thought he would take a chance and use it.



Military Service

By 1942 the threat of invasion had receded, air raids had decreased and a decision was made to release some 7,000 young volunteers from the police for duty in the armed forces, not especially air crew and including army commandos. As a result, all regular police officers under 25 and auxiliaries under 30 subsequently raised to 30 and 35 respectively were “de-reserved”.⁷

In 1942 Powis volunteered for the Commandos and was posted to the Commando Depot Basic Training Centre, joining the 3rd Police intake, which commenced on 15th October. On completion of training, he was attached to No 5 Commando and saw active service in the Burma. His service number was 14311517. May well have served alongside John Buxton a member of the Surrey Constabulary.

All commando volunteers had an administrative regiment in this case The Black Watch where he would find himself if his services in the commandos were no longer required i.e. he fell below expectations. In 1950, his medals were sent to him at 'One Oak', Littlefield Common, Guildford. One of the medals was for service in Burma, a theatre that both 1 and 5 Commando served.

There is further evidence from one of the most highly regarded Commando officers of the war Brigadier John Durnford-Slater DSO and Bar. In his book *Commando* he writes of the losses at Dieppe during the raid and replacements arriving.

“By this time the Commando depot at Achnacarry, Scotland was a very live place under the direction of Colonel Charles Vaughan, a tough guardsman. Charles at once set about the task of providing the necessary officers and men to bring us up to strength. He was in a particularly good position to do this, as he had just finished training a batch of 600 volunteers from the police.

This intake of police was perfect Commando material. The men were big, strong and intelligent and had all their police discipline and training behind them. They were real volunteers keen for the contest. I had 120 of them posted to No 3 Commando. This was the best single intake we ever received, and every man was a potential leader; many of course were later commissioned and others exerted a fine influence as senior NCOs.”⁸

By September 1944 there was substantial reduction in civil defence of the home front and by the end of the year nearly 4,000 Metropolitan Police officers and 8,000 auxiliaries had joined the armed forces with a similar number from the provincial forces.⁹

Nationally 278 members of the police were killed by enemy action whilst with their Forces and

⁷ *The Gentlemen at War Policing Britain 1939-1945* Roy Ingleton page 30

⁸ *Commando. Memoirs of a fighting Commando in World War Two* Durnford-Slater page 109

⁹ *The Gentlemen at War Policing Britain 1939-1945* Roy Ingleton page 30

1275 police officers serving with HM Forces were killed or died from other causes. (Critchley)

1946 27th November he was **discharged** from the Army

1950 28th August he was awarded 1939/45, Burma, War Medal.

(C.S. 20)

APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF CAMPAIGN STARS AND MEDALS, Ex-Army Personnel
WRITE IN INK IN BLOCK CAPITALS

I desire Campaign Stars and Medals, as shown below, awarded to me (or to the late)

Number 1431517	Christian or First names EDWARD THOMAS	Surname of Officer, soldier or auxiliary POWIS.
Class of Release or Discharge and Date A' 27/11/46	Age and Service Group No. 47	Rank WS/CPL
Last Regiment or Corps according to cap badge worn (R.A. to state Branch; Home Guard to insert H.G. with County and Battalion number) THE BLACK WATCH		

to be addressed to me as follows:— (State Rank, Title, Mr., Mrs. or Miss)

(Name) **Mr E.T. Powis**
'ONE OAK'
LITTLEFIELD COMMON
GUILDFORD SURREY.

(Full Postal Address, with Post Town and County — or Postal District and Number —if appropriate)

This Box for War Office Use Only

STARS CLASPS
E298
MEDALS ISSUED

C/O
R/8
9/46

Strike out items which were NOT awarded

STARS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1939-45	<input type="checkbox"/> PACIFIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ATLANTIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BURMA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR CREW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ITALY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EUROPE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FRANCE & GERMANY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AFRICA	

MEDALS **3-0**

DEFENCE WAR

NOTE—YOUR STARS or MEDALS may not be issued for **SEVERAL MONTHS** receiving them, send a postcard at once to War Office marked "Medals: New Address" and showing (i) the new address and (ii) No., name and last Regiment or Corps.

Signature of Applicant: **Edward Thomas** If claiming as legatee or next-of-kin, state relationship to deceased

1945 15th November he rejoined Surrey Constabulary, resigning on 7th January 1946. He resigned less than two months after rejoining the Surrey Constabulary at the end of the war. According to the Commandos Association newsletter an entry in Newsletter No. 18 (1954) suggests he was a Dairy, Pig and Poultry farmer at Home Farm, Coton, Salop. He subsequently emigrated to Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and was living/farming(?) at Mutare. He died in Zimbabwe.

The following are entries in the Commando Association newsletters relating to Edward Powis: No. 18 (March 1954). Members, particularly those interested in Dairy, Pig and Poultry Farming, will always be made welcome if passing by Home Farm, Coton, Whitchurch, Salop. the home of Pte E.T. Powis (5 Cdo).

No. 98 (March 1994). Dennis Ford of 7 Cdo has written to say that he is in contact with Eddie Powis of 5 Cdo, who would like to hear from his old pals. Either can be reached c/o The Legion, 8 Aerodrome Road, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

No. 107 (August 1998). Under Obituaries it merely lists Pte E (Eddie) Powis (5 Cdo) of Mutare, Zimbabwe.¹⁰

1946 /1947/1948 Electoral Registers for 75 Wendover Road Egham lists Elsie and Edward Thomas Powis.

1948 26th November Wolverton Express Buckinghamshire - Van and Lorry in Collision at Stony Stratford - A van was totally wrecked when in collision with a heavy goods lorry at Stony Stratford. Miss Doreen Cordingley, age about 30 of Edgbaston, Staffordshire suffered severe head injuries and was taken to Northampton General Hospital. The van driver, Edward Powis of Little Field Common, Worplesdon, Surrey sustained a black eye and the lorry driver, John Wickett of Birmingham was unhurt.

1950 Electoral Register for One Oak, Littlefield Common, Worplesdon, Guildford lists Elsie and Edward Thomas Powis (Elsie remained in the Guildford area for the rest of her life, she died on 6th September 1981 and was of 1, Baden Road, Guildford.)

1950 26th May Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser reported on a "Smart Wedding at Adbaston". This was the wedding of Miss Doreen Cordingley of Adbaston, Stafford and Mr. Edward Thomad Powis, only son of the late Mr. H E Powis and Mrs. Powis of One Oak Littlefield Common Guildford Surrey. It stated that during the war the bridegroom served with the Black Watch in Burma and India and has since been engaged in farming.

1951 2nd February Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser **Farm Sale**



By Order of Mr. E. T. Powis
HOME FARM :: COTON.
4 miles from Wem and 5 miles from
Whitchurch
Unreserved Sale of:—
UNCONSUMED PRODUCE
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, Etc.
including:—
400 BALES OF PRIME QUALITY
HAY.
150 BALES OF CLEAN OAT
STRAW (To be Sold in
suitable Lots).
1943 FORDSON STANDARD
TRACTOR
on rubbers in good working order.
Ransome 2-furrow Tractor Plough
Albion Mower. Ridge Plough and
Scuffle. Cart Wheels Small Farm
Tools. G.I. Tanks and numerous
other items, which:—
Hall, Wateridge & Owen, Ltd.
will Sell by Auction
ON THE PREMISES
as above
on **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17th,**
Commencing at 2 o'clock prompt.
NO CATALOGUES.
Auctioneers' Offices: 3 High Street,
Wem, Shrewsbury and Oswestry.

1952 24th April **Martin Powis** was born Whitchurch Registration District, Shropshire; his mother's maiden name was Cordingley.

¹⁰ <https://www.commandoveterans.org/>

1954 4th March Andrew Powis was born Whitchurch Registration District; his mother's maiden name was Cordingley.

1954 30th July Staffordshire Sentinel – Sales - On 23rd September sale of poultry and appliances, household furniture at **Home Farm, Coton** for Mr. E T Powis.

1954 3rd September Staffordshire Sentinel- On Saturday 18th September at **Home Farm, Coton** for Mr. E T Powis, who has sold the farm, a dispersal sale of the Coton Herd of 62 attested Ayrshire Dairy and store Cattle, 83 breeding farm and store pigs, pedigree large white boar, collection of modern farm implements, 1952 Ferguson tractor and a diesel engine.

1958 Edward, his wife Doreen and children Martin (bn 1952) and Andrew (bn 1954) **left Mombasa aboard “Braemar Castle” for London**, arriving on 26th February. Their address in the UK Knighton Mount, Adbaston, Stafford. Edward was described as a farmer, and the family had lived in Kenya for more than 12 months.

1958 10th September Hilary Powis was born Totnes Registration District, Devon her mother's maiden name was Cordingley.

1960 12th May Edward, Doreen, Martin, Andrew and Hilary (bn 1958) **left Southampton on route to Cape Town** aboard the Pretoria Castle. Edward described himself as a farmer and their last address being Broadley, Diptford S Brent, Devon.

1994 12 August Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser – **Obituary for Mrs Doreen Powis**

DOREEN POWIS

The death occurred recently of Mrs Doreen Powis (nee Cordingley), in Zimbabwe, formerly Southern Rhodesia.

Mrs Powis, who was aged 69, was the eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur Cordingley, of Knighton Mount Farm, Adbaston, Staffs. She had suffered from Parkinson's disease for over 20 years.

She was born at Hollin Lane Farm, Aston, Nantwich, Cheshire, in 1925, and moved to Adbaston in 1938. She was

educated in Crewe and at Newport Girls' High School, where she became head girl.

She gained a Bs.C. degree in (biology) at London University, and taught at schools in Middlesex and Surrey before her marriage to Mr Eddie Powis, of Guildford, Surrey. They lived in Kenya for four years where Mr Powis held an agricultural post.

They returned to England in 1958 and farmed in Devon for two years before going to Southern Rhodesia. Mrs Powis returned to teach and was head of the science department at a school in Mutare.

Mrs Powis is survived by her husband and three children. Her eldest son, Martin, is a detective inspector with the Papua Police in New Guinea, and the youngest son, Andrew, is a chartered accountant in Zimbabwe. Her daughter, Hilary, is married and lives in Zimbabwe.

Edward Thomas Powis died on 22nd September 1997 in Zimbabwe.

South Africa, Estates Death Index, 1999-2014

Detail	Source
Name	Edward Thomas
Death Date	22 Sep 1997
Death Place	Zimbabwe
Date of Executorship Letter	29 Dec 1999
High Court	North Gauteng High Court
High Court Provincial Division	Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa
Estate Number	16705/98
Spouse	Powis
Pre-Deceased Spouse Name	Powis Doreen